

LETTER  
FROM  
THE SECRETARY OF WAR,

TRANSMITTING

*Report of Chief Clerk and Superintendent of War Department Building  
in relation to expense of heating the same, &c.*

DECEMBER 9, 1879.—Referred to Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed with accompanying document.

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
Washington City, December 6, 1879.

The Secretary of War has the honor to transmit to the United States Senate, for the consideration of the Committee on Appropriations, a letter from Mr. H. T. Crosby, chief clerk and superintendent of the War Department building, reporting the additional expense of caring for and heating the department since the removal to the new building.

The heating apparatus is intricate and valuable, and requires the best of skill to care for it properly and preserve it in good order. The estimate of the chief clerk for this purpose is reasonable and in the interest of economy. Unless properly cared for the apparatus will soon get out of order, and a large sum will be necessary for repairs.

The elevator is running constantly during office hours, and a conductor is absolutely indispensable. An additional force of six charwomen should be provided, and also an additional amount for the contingent expenses of the building.

I have therefore the honor to recommend that a sufficient sum be appropriated for the following extra employes during the present fiscal year, and that they be provided for hereafter in the regular legislative, executive, and judicial appropriation bill, viz: One assistant engineer and superintendent of laborers, at \$1,000 per annum; one assistant engineer, at \$900 per annum; one conductor of the elevator, at \$720 per annum; one fireman, at \$720 per annum; and six charwomen, at \$180 per annum each.

Also, that an additional sum of \$2,000 be appropriated for the current fiscal year for the contingent expenses of the War Department building, this amount being necessary for gas and fuel, as shown in the letter of the chief clerk.

GEO. W. McCrARY,  
Secretary of War.

The PRESIDENT  
Of the United States Senate.

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
*Washington City, December 5, 1879.*

MR. SECRETARY: In obedience to your instructions, I have the honor to report that since our removal to that portion of the new War Department building now occupied, it has been found that owing to the great difference in the heating apparatus, which requires a much larger number of employes to control it, it is necessary that there should be an increase of the force of the department in its management. There is also a necessity for a person to conduct the elevator; and, owing to the increased amount of work in cleaning the floors and rooms, the force of char-women should be materially increased.

I have, therefore, to request that an estimate be sent to Congress for an appropriation for the following extra employes:

One assistant engineer and superintendent of laborers, at \$1,000 per annum; one assistant engineer, at \$900 per annum; one conductor of the elevator, at \$720 per annum; one fireman, at \$720 per annum; and six charwomen, at \$180 per annum each—say \$1,080. Total, \$4,420.

An addition, to the amount of \$2,000, for the current expenses of the building, is absolutely required, for our gas and fuel bills are very largely increased by reason of the greatly-increased size of halls, rooms, elevator, and basements over and above what was to be provided for in the old War Department building. This increased amount has been included in the regular estimate for the building.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. T. CROSBY,  
*Chief Clerk, Superintendent.*

The Hon. the SECRETARY OF WAR.

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